REMARKS

- 2. <u>Claims 11, 23-24, 27-28, 30, 33, 36-38, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,217,155 ("Kitahama") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,290,990 ("Bischofberger")</u>. Applicants have cancelled claims 11, 23-24, 27-28, 30, 33, 36-38, and 40. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request this rejection be withdrawn.
- 5. Claims 25-26, 31-32, 39, and 41-42 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but will be allowed if rewritten in independent form where appropriate. Applicants thank the Examiner for the provisional allowance of these claims. Applicants have amended claims 25-26, 31-32, 39, and 41-42 into independent form, including the limitations of any intervening claims, where appropriate. None of the requested amendments enter new matter. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that claims 25-26, 31-32, 39, and 41-42 be passed onto allowance.

Applicants believe the above requested amendments place the present application in form for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the present application be passed onto allowance.

Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time in order to file an Amendment After Final on the above-identified application. If any additional extension of time for the accompanying response is required, Applicant respectfully requests that this paper be considered a petition therefor.

Applicants enclose herewith a check in the amount of \$746.00 in payment of the additional claims and two-month extension fees. In the event a fee in excess of the amount provided is due, please charge our Deposit Order Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,
McCORMICK, PAULDING & HUBER

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